

**METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR PROVIDING AN ASYMMETRIC ETHERNET
SERVICE**

ABSTRACT

5 Methods and systems provide an asymmetric Ethernet service. An Ethernet
network transports Ethernet frames over an asymmetric connection to a point of service
for a subscriber located remotely from the Ethernet network, and the Ethernet connection
is asymmetric in that the effective data transfer rates for uploading and downloading of
data over the Ethernet connection are different. The subscriber may then have Ethernet
10 capable network devices such as routers and computers linked to the point of service so
that data transfer between the network devices of the subscriber and the Ethernet network
occurs over the asymmetric Ethernet connection. The Ethernet network allows for
communication between the network devices of the subscriber and any desired Ethernet
network resources, such as network resources located on the Ethernet network or
15 resources of downstream networks such as the global Internet that are available through
the Ethernet network.